

**PARISH OF MOREHOUSE,
STATE OF LOUISIANA
CERTAIN FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL DATA**

Population of the Parish

The population growth trend of the Parish of Morehouse is as follows:

YEAR	PARISH POPULATION	STATE POPULATION
1950	32,038	2,683,516
1960	33,709	3,257,022
1970	32,463	3,644,637
1980	34,803	4,205,900
1990	31,938	4,219,973
1991	32,118	4,251,560
1992	31,882	4,287,195
1993	31,818	4,295,477
1994	31,989	4,315,085
1995	32,056	4,339,352
1996	31,899	4,350,579
1997	31,722	4,351,769
1998	31,438	4,368,967

Sources: US Census; Louisiana Tech University, January, 1999.

Population of Municipalities

The population growth trends of the municipalities in the Parish of Morehouse are as follows:

YEAR	BASTROP	BONITA	COLLINSTON	MER ROUGE	OAK RIDGE
1960	15,193	574	497	853	287
1970	14,713	533	397	819	276
1980	15,527	503	439	802	257
1990	13,916	265	375	586	174
1991	13,987	264	375	749	175
1992	14,031	261	375	775	174
1993	14,019	271	375	765	175
1994	14,019	271	375	778	182
1995	14,019	271	375	784	183
1996	14,028	271	417	778	184
1997	14,028	262	417	772	185
1998	14,028	264	417	741	178

Sources: US Census; Louisiana Tech University, January, 1999.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Personal Income

The Bureau of Economic Analysis of the US Department of Commerce publishes personal income data. The most recent revised per capita income figures for the Parish, Louisiana and the United States are as follows:

YEAR	PARISH	LOUISIANA	UNITED STATES
1990	\$11,568	\$14,281	\$18,666
1991	\$13,124	\$15,079	\$19,201
1992	\$13,768	\$15,817	\$20,137
1993	\$14,375	\$17,133	\$21,220
1994	\$14,944	\$18,086	\$22,056
1995	\$15,256	\$18,826	\$23,059
1996	\$15,870	\$19,609	\$24,164
1997	\$15,914	\$20,458	\$25,288

Source: US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, October, 1998.

Retail Sales

According to the *Survey of Buying Power*, estimated retail sales by category in Morehouse Parish were as follows:

(In Thousands)

Year	Total Retail Sales	Food	Eat/Drink	Gen Mdse	Furn/Appl	Auto
1991	\$158,126	\$38,966	\$7,426	\$22,655	\$2,317	\$48,473
1992	\$161,647	\$35,153	\$8,277	\$27,793	\$3,334	\$47,470
1993	\$169,471	\$33,894	\$8,655	\$29,796	\$3,501	\$52,800
1994	\$248,848	\$52,171	\$12,607	\$33,655	\$4,760	\$90,607
1995	\$269,352	\$48,399	\$15,160	\$35,275	\$6,578	\$103,871
1996	\$291,198	\$53,912	\$16,637	\$38,293	\$5,738	\$108,637
1997	\$304,311	\$57,266	\$17,280	\$42,417	\$5,583	\$106,356

(Note: The retail sales statistics in the 1995 edition of the *Survey of Buying Power*, which lists data for 1994, are based on newly published benchmark data from the 1992 Census of Retail Trade (CRT). Prior to this year, retail figures reported in the Survey were based on data from the 1987 Census [unlike the general Census, the CRT is conducted in five year intervals]. Whenever such an adjustment is made, trends in lines that fall across benchmark year are often skewed, a fact readers should keep in mind when comparing retail sales figures for 1994 and thereafter to those from prior years.

Source: Sales and Marketing Management, Survey of Buying Power, August, 1998.

SALES TAXES

Sales Taxes Levied in the Parish

The following is a summary, by area, of sales and use tax rates levied within the Parish of Morehouse as of 12/31/98.

Entity/Area	Parish-Wide Tax	Municipal Tax	Total Local Tax	State Tax	Total Sales Tax
MOREHOUSE PARISH	3.5		3.5	4	7.5
BASTROP	3.5	2	5.5	4	9.5
BONITA	3.5	1	4.5	4	8.5
COLLINSTON	3.5	1	4.5	4	8.5
MER ROUGE	3.5	2	5.5	4	9.5

Source: Louisiana Department of Revenue and Taxation, Sales Tax Division, January, 1999.

Taxable Sales

Sales and use taxes are levied by various entities at various rates throughout the Parish. The following figures represent the tax base of a broad-based sales and use tax levied on a parishwide basis.

<i>(In Thousands)</i>					
Month	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
January	\$17,654	\$19,421	\$19,950	\$18,800	\$18,742
February	\$17,252	\$16,632	\$19,521	\$16,738	\$18,769
March	\$21,508	\$23,556	\$24,273	\$21,853	\$34,531
April	\$20,752	\$25,245	\$24,847	\$20,759	\$22,949
May	\$19,393	\$23,196	\$22,150	\$20,521	\$18,777
June	\$21,597	\$24,201	\$27,462	\$33,785	\$26,942
July	\$19,920	\$21,674	\$19,618	\$19,824	\$20,947
August	\$20,280	\$23,071	\$22,476	\$20,624	\$20,368
September	\$21,982	\$23,225	\$23,795	\$21,534	\$23,417
October	\$18,621	\$24,333	\$20,127	\$20,054	\$19,723
November	\$17,797	\$19,147	\$18,523	\$17,146	\$17,374
December	\$21,965	\$24,257	\$23,872	\$22,001	\$29,240
Annual Total	\$238,719	\$267,958	\$266,615	\$253,638	\$271,780

Source: Oakland Econometrics.

PROPERTY TAXES

Assessed Valuation of the Parish

The recent trend in the assessed valuation of property throughout the Parish of Morehouse is as follows:

Year	Taxable Assessed Valuation	Homestead Exemptions	Total Assessed Valuation
1990	\$80,359,730	\$24,764,590	\$105,124,320
1991	\$81,957,500	\$24,913,470	\$106,870,970
1992	\$80,417,710	\$24,975,720	\$105,393,430
1993	\$81,713,960	\$25,314,400	\$107,028,360
1994	\$87,764,750	\$25,666,320	\$113,431,070
1995	\$89,562,160	\$26,288,180	\$115,850,340
1996	\$94,871,170	\$26,896,640	\$121,767,810
1997	\$96,387,890	\$27,601,370	\$123,989,260
1998	\$97,485,410	\$27,754,860	\$125,240,270

Source: Morehouse Parish Assessor's Office.

A breakdown of the assessed valuation of the Parish by classification of property is as follows:

Year	Real Estate	Personal Property	Public Service
1990	\$58,009,520	\$28,714,390	\$18,400,410
1991	\$54,588,930	\$34,560,720	\$17,721,320
1992	\$54,194,240	\$33,465,570	\$17,733,620
1993	\$55,104,020	\$33,819,220	\$18,105,120
1994	\$56,101,060	\$39,862,840	\$17,467,170
1995	\$57,458,130	\$39,804,570	\$18,587,640
1996	\$59,494,550	\$43,110,810	\$19,162,450
1997	\$61,105,460	\$43,184,660	\$19,699,140
1998	\$62,119,870	\$42,496,650	\$20,623,750

Millage Rates

The recent trend in the aggregate ad valorem tax rates (in mills) levied on a parishwide basis by various entities within the boundaries of the Parish of Morehouse follows:

Year	Millage
1990	47.19
1991	47.19
1992	62.76
1993	62.85
1994	61.25
1995	61.25
1996	63.10
1997	63.10
1998	59.10

Sources: Louisiana Tax Commission and Morehouse Parish Assessor's Office.

Leading Taxpayers

The ten largest property taxpayers of the Parish of Morehouse in 1998 and their assessed valuation are as follows:

TAXPAYER	ASSESSED VALUATION
1.INTERNATIONAL PAPER	\$23,137,700
2.ENERGY LOUISIANA INC.	\$5,289,779
3. TEXAS GAS TRANSMISSION CORP	\$4,259,401
4. BELL SOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS	\$2,401,889
5. GEORGIA-PACIFIC CORP	\$1,641,920
6. SOUTHERN NATURAL GAS CO	\$1,530,730
7. HIBERNIA NATIONAL BANK	\$1,511,210
8. TENNESSEE GAS PIPELINE	\$1,265,880
9. NORAM GAS TRANSMISSION	\$1,082,220
10. PEOPLES WATER SERVICE CO	\$1,050,697

Source: Morehouse Parish Assessor's Office.

SCHOOL STATISTICS

Enrollment

The recent trends in public school registration, average daily membership and average daily attendance in the Morehouse Parish school system are as follows:

REGISTRATION	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE	5,657	5,192	5,309	5,209
AVERAGE DAILY MEMBERSHIP	6,053	5,461	5,655	5,588
PUBLIC	6,203	5,938	5,689	5,635

"Average Daily Attendance" reflects the average daily attendance of member public school students during the session. "Average Daily Membership" reflects the average daily count of public school students registered during the session. "Public" reflects the count of public school students registered on the first day of the school year, including pre-kindergarten.

Expenditures

Expenditure trends for the Morehouse Parish School Board are as follows:

EXPENDITURES	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
MEAN TEACHER SALARY	\$22,066	\$22,092	\$22,327	\$25,779
CURRENT EXPEN PER STUDENT	\$4,061	\$3,974	\$4,586	\$4,824
CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$2,389,264	\$977,244	\$890,121	\$4,227,779
DEBT SERVICE	\$1,699,682	\$1,963,600	\$2,168,389	\$2,045,208
CURRENT EXPENDITURES	\$24,583,462	\$23,573,351	\$24,745,008	\$26,988,804

Source: Louisiana Department of Education.